

From: Markus Diersbock
To: Microsoft ATR
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Microsoft is like the greedy kid at the birthday party who sits at the table and grabs all the other kid's cake. He doesn't grab all the pieces because he's hungry, he just doesn't want anyone else to eat.

So birthday party after birthday party, Billy steals the cake while the others kids stare.

Some people will say, "But who cares that little Billy steals everyone's cake, he gives a couple of pieces to the poor kids down the street."

Well, what about the kids who were at the table?

This analogy has played on throughout the life of Microsoft. With a stranglehold on PC manufactures to sign exclusionary OS contracts they lockout their competition, not only in the OS market, but any other market that can be reduced to an icon sitting on the consumer's desktop.

So the OEMs are forced to bundle unrelated products together to sell to the consumer. The padded price is then funneled to Redmond. Those who don't comply get "punished" through jacked-up pricing or non-renewal of their contracts.

"Protection fee" - isn't this what the mob does?

I'm a programmer and have used computers since the Apple][+. And I REALLY LOVE Microsoft development tools, but here's the rub.

Microsoft told the development community in the late 80's "Come write for Microsoft Windows, look at all the great things you can do, blah, blah, blah." The reason being that more applications you have for an OS the more people want the OS and thus greater adoption of Windows over other OS's.

But Microsoft didn't want ONLY their OS PIECE of Cake they wanted the WHOLE cake. After Windows was pretty well-entrenched Microsoft turned around and started writing

their own competing applications using secret hooks (Undocumented APIs) that gave their applications better power than the 3rd party developers they had been courting years earlier.

They ran company after company out of business going after one market then the next. They were pretty successful in crushing everyone except AOL in online and Intuit in personal finance software. Basically giving the birthday party, inviting everyone in, and when the presents arrived, booted everyone out with no cake.

So there those same people are again, "Well Microsoft gives money to the poor, blah, blah, blah." Well what about the employee's families of the companies that Microsoft ran out of business?

Microsoft has NO friends - they screw everyone. The developers, their partners, even the customers. How many in the tech community came to their defence during these court proceedings? Probably just as many who came to the aid of Standard Oil.

So here we are again, years later. Billy has cake frosting all over his face, he didn't get a spanking for his past misdeeds and he's on his way to the next birthday party.

Hmmm, wonder what the outcome will be?

Markus Diersbock
Programmer
<http://www.crowdshare.com/profile.asp>

CC: bob@cringely.com@inetgw